

Food & Drug Adm.:

I am against any xeno-transplant research because:

Responsible health authorities ^{67140 799 JUL 15 11:30} could ban all xenotransplants outright, regardless of the species, particularly because of the threats of interspecies virus transmission.

Pigs are being considered as the source animal of choice for xenotransplants. But there is no evidence that pigs are any safer than nonhuman primates. Pig viruses are just as dangerous as non-human primate viruses.

The U.S. should follow Europe's lead. In January 1999, the Council of Europe, representing 40 European countries, recommended a world-wide ban on xenotransplants.

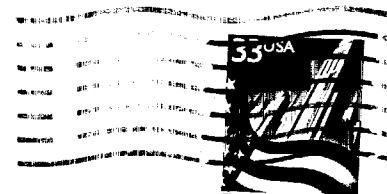
There are safer and more humane alternatives to xenotransplantation, such as aggressively promoting preventive medicine and increasing human organ donation rates.

This is Docket Number (99D-0557).

Dorothy Finger

Dorothy Finger (Mrs.)
12675 Skyline Blvd.
Oakland, Ca. 94619

Mrs. Dorothy Finger
12675 Skyline Boulevard
Oakland, CA 94619



Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)

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5630 Fosters Lane Rm. 1061

Rockville MD 20852

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